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THE ORGANIZER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Vol. 4, No. 4

Agriculture Local #2, UFWA

February 15, 1939

SPRING TERM OF FEDERAL WORKERS SCHOOL OPENS THIS WEEK

Hundreds of Federal employees are registering at UFWA headquarters, 532 - 17th Street, for the spring term which starts during the week of February 13. The school, now in its second year, has been given such enthusiastic support that it has already taken its place as an established institution for workers' education in the District of Columbia. Twenty-four courses are listed in the curriculum for the new term with subjects ranging from shorthand to social psychology.

The school is unique in that it is able to offer the services of competent instructors, many of whom are outstanding in their fields, while charging tuition fees of only \$2.50 a course (\$3.00 to those who are not members of the UFWA). Students who have not previously registered may do so immediately preceding classes this week. Competent advisers will be on hand to guide students who may wish help in choosing courses.

Some indication of the wide variety of courses offered for the spring term is given by the following titles: Journalism, Trade Practices, Theatre Workshop, The National Income and its Distribution, Modern Dance, and Public Speaking. Limitation of space prevents us from listing all of the course titles here. A folder issued by the Federal Workers School containing a description of each course, the time that it is given and names of instructors may be obtained from UFWA headquarters by calling District 3250.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 15, 8 P. M.
532-17th St. N. W.

THE ORGANIZER

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Vice-Pres.....Daniel Sullivan
Editor.....Edmond Harris

CIVIL SERVICE REPORT

PRAISES UNIONS

Appreciation of the "constructive work of organized groups of employees in improving personnel practices" is expressed by the Civil Service Commission in its last annual report.

"Leadership of employee unions," the report continues, "has been responsible and intelligent. Co-operation from employee groups has been outstanding. The Commission believes that the maintenance of a close cooperative relationship with employee organizations is an assurance of progress in the field of personnel administration and an assurance against friction and misunderstanding preventable wherever enlightened personnel management exists."

We naturally feel pleased at the growing recognition of the function of employee unions which is shown in this report. But we

cannot help realizing how much more Local 2 could do if our membership were two or three times its present size.

Join with us and feel the same solid satisfaction we do in the recognized accomplishments of our union. Help us to continue and enlarge these accomplishments.

PARTIALITY

The myth of the so-called "partiality" of the Wagner Act and National Labor Relations Board is dispatched very neatly by R. R. R. Brooks in his book "Unions of Their Own Choosing," reviewed in the Washington Post on January 20. Mr. Brooks says, "The act is partial to the principle of collective bargaining; the Board is partial to the enforcement of the act; and the Courts have thus far been partial to the partiality of both Congress and the Board."

YOU TELL US

What specific job would you most like to see Local 2 tackle? Tell us in not more than 50 words. Best replies will be published. Address J. A. Schricker, EPI, 3630 South Building.

* * * *

Beginning Monday February 27, Regular Meetings of Local 2 will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

WORKSHOP AND LIBRARY FEATURE UFWA SCHOOL

The Federal Workers School is offering a new service in the Social Science Workshop. Materials for the making of posters, maps, charts, graphs, signs, and other visual translations of facts will be available every day from 1 to 5 p.m., and on Friday evenings competent instructors will be in charge from 5 until 9 p.m. This service is made possible through the cooperation of the William Roy Smith Memorial Committee which has recently been formed to direct the use of a memorial fund given to assist educational projects in trade unions.

Other new features of the Federal Workers School are the library and reading room which are now available largely through the efforts of the Student Council, and the gift of Mrs. Gertrude M. Evans, the Trudi Evans Memorial Fund. The library includes a fine assortment of books covering a wide range of subject matter and is constantly being increased through purchase and gifts from friends.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION BANS POISONOUS DRUG

Consumers Union, leading organization rendering expert buying advice to consumers, reports that Aminopyrine, pain-killing and man-killing drug has at last been banned from use in patent medicines by an order of the Federal Food and Drug Administration under the new law. Although the drug was known to be injurious, manufacturers of such remedies as Midol, Nixin, and Lydia Pinkham's Tablets peddled the drug as long as they legally could do so.

The Food and Drug Administration maintains a museum of horrors in Room 2816 South Building, where Agriculture employees and others who may be interested can learn much of the sordid story of profits in death for unscrupulous drug manufacturers.

PROMOTIONS POLICY

The Inter-Union Council, composed of representatives of the three Agriculture Unions, has drawn up a plan for study of Departmental policy in granting administrative promotions. This plan, already tried in the Forest Service with the cooperation of Mr. Keplinger, has so impressed Mr. Hendrickson, Director of Personnel, that he feels a similar study should be made for the entire Department. A committee composed of union members and department officials will consider the plan further to eliminate any possible statistical difficulties before the study is ordered to be made.

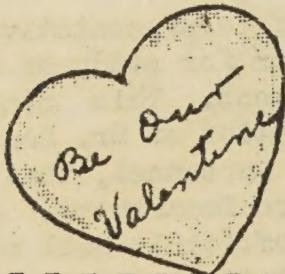
HERE AND THERE WITH AGRICULTURE LOCAL 2

THE ADJUSTMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS that it has taken up a reclassification case in the Division of Hay, Feed and Seed of the BAE. The committee is seeking to bring the salary of a statistical clerk of this Division up to the level of others doing similar work in the Bureau. An interview with the supervisor confirmed the facts brought out in the committee's preliminary investigation, and it is hoped that this employee will soon be reclassified from CAF 2 to CAF 4.

ELIZABETH TOOHEY, RECORDING SECRETARY OF LOCAL 2 has resigned from her position in the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to become a teacher in Rockville, Md. We don't know how we shall be able to get along without Elizabeth who had a most happy faculty of injecting a bit of humor now and then into her minutes of meetings, which we all enjoyed. Incidentally, Elizabeth's successor will be elected at our next meeting.

TWO DELEGATES TO THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE FOR FAIR TAXATION were chosen at the February 1 meeting. The Committee is composed of representatives of Civic, Labor, and Consumer organizations, and individual citizens of the District of Columbia who have joined together to prevent the adoption of a general sales tax or any other kind of tax which may not be based on "Ability to Pay." This committee was largely responsible for the defeat of the sales tax for the District last year and we hope its efforts will prove as successful this year. Incidentally, the committee's office is in Room 1056 of the National Press Building.

JOIN THE UFWA TODAY!



NAME _____

ROOM _____ PHONE _____

Fill out and send by chain envelope to John A. Schricker
Room 3630 South Building.